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General Assembly

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Sixty-third session
Third Committee
Agenda item 97
Crime prevention and criminal justice

Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Note by the Secretariat

By its resolution 2008/22 of 24 July 2008, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders, and its resolution 62/173 of 18 December 2007 on the follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, in which it, inter alia, accepted with gratitude the offer of the Government of Brazil to act as host to the Twelfth Congress,

Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) of 1 December 1950 and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Twelfth Congress is to be held in 2010,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for and the format of United Nations congresses, as stipulated in paragraph 2 of its resolution 56/119, as well as paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, annexed to its resolution 46/152,

Bearing in mind also the conclusions and recommendations contained in the report of the meeting of the Intergovernmental Group of Experts on Lessons Learned from United Nations Congresses on Crime Prevention and

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Criminal Justice, held in Bangkok from 15 to 18 August 2006,[1] which the General Assembly endorsed in its resolution 62/173,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice in promoting the exchange of experience in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

Recalling that, in its resolution 62/173, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, at its seventeenth session, to finalize the programme for the Twelfth Congress and to make its final recommendations on the theme and on the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 62/173, it requested the Secretary-General to prepare a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress,

Recalling further its resolution 60/177 of 16 December 2005, in which it endorsed the Bangkok Declaration on Synergies and Responses: Strategic Alliances in Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, adopted by the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as contained in the annex to that resolution, and Economic and Social Council resolution 2005/15 of 22 July 2005, in which the Council endorsed the Bangkok Declaration,

Stressing the importance of undertaking all preparatory activities for the Twelfth Congress in a timely and concerted manner,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice,[2]

1. *Notes* the progress made thus far in the preparations for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;

2. *Decides* to hold the Twelfth Congress in Salvador, Brazil, from 12 to 19 April 2010, with pre-Congress consultations to be held on 11 April 2010;

3. *Also decides* that the high-level segment of the Twelfth Congress shall be held during the last two days of the Congress in order to allow Heads of State or Government and Government ministers to focus on the main substantive agenda items of the Congress;

4. *Further decides* that the main theme of the Twelfth Congress shall be "Comprehensive strategies for global challenges: crime prevention and criminal justice systems and their development in a changing world";

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[1] E/CN.15/2007/6.

[2] E/CN.15/2008/14.

5. *Approves* the following provisional agenda for the Twelfth Congress, finalized by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its seventeenth session:

1. Opening of the Congress.

2. Organizational matters.

3. Children, youth and crime.

4. Provision of technical assistance to facilitate the ratification and implementation of the international instruments related to the prevention and suppression of terrorism.

5. Making the United Nations guidelines on crime prevention work.

6. Criminal justice responses to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons: links to transnational organized crime.

7. International cooperation to address money-laundering based on existing and relevant United Nations and other instruments.

8. Recent developments in the use of science and technology by offenders and by competent authorities in fighting crime, including the case of cybercrime.

9. Strengthening international cooperation in fighting crime-related problems: practical approaches.

10. Crime prevention and criminal justice responses to violence against migrants, migrant workers and their families.

11. Adoption of the report of the Congress;

6. *Decides* that the following issues shall be considered in workshops within the framework of the Twelfth Congress:

(a) International criminal justice education for the rule of law;

(b) Survey of United Nations and other best practices in the treatment of prisoners in the criminal justice system;

(c) Practical approaches to preventing urban crime;

(d) Links between drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime: international coordinated response;

(e) Strategies and best practices against overcrowding in correctional facilities;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, to prepare a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in a timely manner in order to enable the regional preparatory meetings to commence early in 2009, and invites Member States to be actively involved in that process;

8. *Urges* participants in the regional preparatory meetings to examine the substantive items in the agenda and the topics of the workshops of the Twelfth Congress and to make action-oriented recommendations to serve as a basis for the draft recommendations and conclusions for consideration by the Twelfth Congress and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its nineteenth session;

9. *Emphasizes* the importance for the workshops to be held within the framework of the Twelfth Congress, and invites Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and other relevant entities to provide financial, organizational and technical support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network for the preparations for the workshops, including the preparation and circulation of relevant background material;

10. *Invites* donor countries to cooperate with developing countries to ensure their full participation, in particular in the workshops;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to prepare a plan for the documentation for the Twelfth Congress, in consultation with the extended Bureau of the Commission;

12. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings for the Twelfth Congress and to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in those meetings and in the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice;

13. *Encourages* Governments to undertake preparations for the Twelfth Congress at an early stage by all appropriate means, including, where appropriate, the establishment of national preparatory committees, with a view to contributing to focused and productive discussion on the topics to be discussed in the workshops and to participating actively in the organization of and follow-up to the workshops;

14. *Reiterates its invitation* to Member States to be represented at the Twelfth Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by Heads of State or Government or Government ministers and attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress and to participate in thematic interactive round tables;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of ancillary meetings of non-governmental and professional organizations participating in the Twelfth Congress, in accordance with past practice, as well as meetings of professional and geographical interest groups, and to take appropriate measures to encourage the participation of the academic and research community in the Congress;

16. *Again encourages* the relevant specialized agencies, United Nations programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in the preparations for the Twelfth Congress;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to appoint a Secretary-General and an Executive Secretary of the Twelfth Congress, in accordance with past practice, to perform their functions under the rules of procedure for United Nations congresses on crime prevention and criminal justice;

18. *Requests* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to accord sufficient time at its eighteenth session to reviewing the progress made in the preparations for the Twelfth Congress, to finalize in good time all the necessary organizational and substantive arrangements and to make its recommendations through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its eighteenth session.

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Agenda item 55 (e)
Social development: review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons

Philippines: draft resolution

Implementation of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons: realizing the Millennium Development Goals for persons with disabilities

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions concerning persons with disabilities, in particular resolution 62/127 of 18 December 2007, in which it recognized the important role of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons[1] in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and the importance of including the perspective of persons with disabilities in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of progress in reaching the Millennium Development Goals and other international development goals,

Aware that there are at least 650 million persons with disabilities worldwide and that the majority of them live in conditions of poverty, and in this regard recognizing the critical need to address the negative impact of poverty on persons with disabilities,

Reaffirming the need to include the rights of and be sensitive to the situation and needs of persons with disabilities in development efforts at the national, regional and international levels, and that if the perspective of persons with disabilities is not taken into account, the internationally agreed development goals, in particular the Millennium Development Goals, will not be genuinely achieved, and in this regard stressing the need to improve complementarity and synergy in the implementation of the three main United Nations mechanisms, namely, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, each of which can build or strengthen

[1] A/37/351/Add.1 and Corr.1, annex, sect. VIII, recommendation I (IV).

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the effectiveness of national legislation, the domestic policy environment and development programmes affecting persons with disabilities,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General on the fifth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[2] which provides a comprehensive assessment of the world disability situation and expounds on the utility of the international normative framework on disability in strengthening the responsiveness of development efforts to disability concerns, and expresses appreciation for the concrete examples and recommendations in that regard;

2. *Expresses* concern about the persistent gap between policy and practice regarding mainstreaming the perspective of persons with disabilities, including their rights and well-being, in the work of the United Nations in realizing the Millennium Development Goals;

3. *Encourages* States, in cooperation with, inter alia, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as regional and international financial institutions and the private sector, as appropriate, to be guided in their work by the objectives of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons, as well as those of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Standard Rules on the Equalization of Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities, and to examine and ensure that development strategies, policies and programmes aimed at implementing internationally agreed development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals, are inclusive of issues concerning persons with disabilities and promote the equalization of opportunities for all by:

(a) Ensuring accessibility, including through reasonable accommodation to enable persons with disabilities to live independently and participate fully in all aspects of life and to participate as agents and beneficiaries of development;

(b) Providing appropriate resources and accessible social services and safety nets for persons with disabilities to ensure improved well-being for all;

(c) Ensuring an adequate standard of living and social protection for persons with disabilities, including through access to poverty and hunger eradication programmes, inclusive quality education, in particular free and compulsory primary education and secondary education, as well as the same range, quality and standard of free or affordable health care as provided to other persons, and the promotion of full employment and decent work for all;

(d) Promoting and strengthening national capacities for participatory, democratic and accountable processes and mechanisms that further the equalization of opportunities for the full and effective participation of persons with disabilities in civil, political, economic, social and cultural life;

4. *Also encourages* States to be guided by the international normative standards in formulating, implementing and evaluating the foregoing actions;

5. *Encourages* improvement, by providing better training in national statistics offices, in the ability of States to collect and analyse appropriate information on the situation of persons with disabilities, including statistical and research data that are disaggregated by age and sex and information on the causes

[2] A/63/183.

and costs of disability, the participation of persons with disabilities in society and the environment and disability, bearing in mind appropriate protection of personal data, for purposes of policy planning, analysis and evaluation that include the perspective of persons with disabilities, and in this regard invites States to avail themselves of the technical services of the Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat;

6. *Calls upon* States to include in country reports, in connection with the forthcoming periodic reviews of progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, a review and evaluation of the impact of development efforts on the rights, well-being and livelihood of persons with disabilities;

7. *Reaffirms its commitment* to respect and promote, without discrimination, the rights of indigenous persons with disabilities, and urges States to take effective measures to continue to improve their economic and social conditions;

8. *Encourages* States to promote, in a proactive manner, the perspective of persons with disabilities in international cooperation by enhancing channels of cooperation and exploring new options, whether through development assistance, multilateral, bilateral or regional arrangements, South-South cooperation, trilateral cooperation or other forms of technical exchange, to accomplish the goal of mainstreaming disability in development cooperation;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, taking into account annex I of the report of the Secretary-General on the fifth quinquennial review and appraisal of the World Programme of Action concerning Disabled Persons,[2] updates of the World Programme of Action in the form of global strategic guidelines for advancement of persons with disabilities in development, which could be developed and updated every five years and should be based on experience in implementing the World Programme of Action, the Standard Rules and corresponding provisions of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and on inputs from regional consultations, States and individual experts, as well as existing data available to the United Nations;

(b) To submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth session a single, comprehensive, biennial report on progress and challenges concerning the advancement of persons with disabilities in the context of development, to include monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the World Programme of Action, in conjunction with the Standard Rules, as well as guidance based on monitoring of the Convention;

(c) To ensure that there is increased accessibility in the services and facilities of the United Nations for persons with disabilities.

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Agenda item 55 (c)
Social development: follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing

Antigua and Barbuda:* draft resolution

Follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 57/167 of 18 December 2002, in which it endorsed the Political Declaration[1] and the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[2] its resolution 58/134 of 22 December 2003, in which it took note, inter alia, of the road map for the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action, and its resolutions 60/135 of 16 December 2005, 61/142 of 19 December 2006 and 62/130 of 18 December 2007,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[3]

1. *Recognizes* the successful conclusion of the first review and appraisal of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[2] and its results at the international, regional and national levels;

2. *Encourages* Governments to pay greater attention to building capacity to eradicate poverty among older persons, in particular older women, by mainstreaming ageing issues into poverty eradication strategies and national development plans, and to include both ageing-specific policies and ageing-mainstreaming efforts in their national strategies;

3. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen their efforts to develop national capacity to address their national implementation priorities identified during the review and appraisal exercise, and invites Member States that have not done so to

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

[1] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] A/63/95.

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consider a step-by-step approach to developing capacity that includes the setting of national priorities, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, research, data collection and analysis and the training of necessary personnel in the field of ageing;

4. *Recommends* that Member States devise strategies to overcome obstacles to the implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action based on life-course and intergenerational solidarity approaches in order to increase the likelihood of greater success in the years ahead;

5. *Encourages* Member States to place particular emphasis on choosing national priorities that are realistic, feasible and have the greatest likelihood of being achieved in the years ahead, to develop targets and indicators to measure progress in the implementation process and to present their views on the outline of the strategic implementation framework contained in the report of the Secretary-General[3] so that they can be reflected in the final draft of the framework to be presented to the Commission for Social Development at its forty-seventh session, in February 2009;

6. *Recommends* that Member States increase awareness-raising of the Madrid Plan of Action, including by strengthening networks of national focal points on ageing, working with the regional commissions and enlisting the help of the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat to expand media coverage on ageing issues;

7. *Invites* Governments to conduct their ageing-related policies through inclusive consultations with relevant stakeholders and social development partners, in the interest of creating national policy ownership and consensus-building;

8. *Also invites* Governments that have not done so to designate focal points for handling follow-up of national plans of action on ageing;

9. *Stresses* that, in order to complement national development efforts, enhanced international cooperation is essential to support developing countries in implementing the Madrid Plan of Action, while recognizing the importance of assistance and the provision of financial assistance;

10. *Encourages* the international community to support national efforts to forge stronger partnerships with civil society, including organizations of older persons, academia, research foundations, community-based organizations, including caregivers, and the private sector, in an effort to help to build capacity on ageing issues;

11. *Encourages* the international community and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to support national efforts to provide funding for research and data-collection initiatives on ageing in order to better understand the challenges and opportunities presented by population ageing and to provide policymakers with more accurate and more specific information on gender and ageing;

12. *Recommends* that Member States reaffirm the role of United Nations focal points on ageing, increase technical cooperation efforts, expand the role of the regional commissions on ageing issues and provide added resources for those efforts, facilitate the coordination of national and international non-governmental organizations on ageing and enhance cooperation with academia on a research agenda on ageing;

13. *Stresses* the need for additional capacity-building at the national level in order to promote and facilitate implementation of the Madrid Plan of Action and in that connection encourages Governments to support the United Nations Trust Fund for Ageing to enable the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat to provide expanded assistance to countries, upon their request;

14. *Recommends* that ongoing efforts to achieve the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[4] take into account the situation of older persons;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to translate the *Guide to the National Implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing* into all official languages of the United Nations so that it can be used more effectively by Member States, and encourages Member States, to translate the *Guide* into their respective languages when appropriate;

16. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session a report specifically on protecting the rights of older persons.

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[4] See General Assembly resolution 55/2.